

Egypt reports 3rd bird flu death this year

January 16 2015

An Egyptian woman died Friday of bird flu, the health ministry announced, the third victim killed in the country this year by the H5N1 infection.

The 43-year-old woman died in the southern city of Asyut, five days after she was hospitalised at the facility where she worked as a nurse, a ministry official from her hometown said.

The woman also raised birds, an activity which could have caused her infection, the official added.

Her death brings to three the number of Egyptians who have died from bird flu since the start of 2015, according to the health ministry, which reported 10 deaths last year.

The H5N1 strain has killed more than 400 people worldwide since it first appeared in 2003, most of them in southeast Asia.

It is one of several deadly or potentially deadly strains of bird flu that are closely monitored by the World Health Organisation.

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